

SNC Reference Number
(enter if previously assigned)

SNC 080163

PROJECT SUMMARY

County: Plumas & El Dorado

Applicant: California Rangeland Trust (CRT)

Project Title: Sierra Nevada Rangeland 2008 Pre-Project Due Diligence Tasks

PROJECT GOAL

Obtain Conservation Easement Appraisals and Phase I Environmental Site Assessment Reports for two (2) future Conservation Easement projects on working cattle ranches within the Sierra Nevada Conservancy region.

PROJECT SCOPE

The California Rangeland Trust (Rangeland Trust) is a California non-profit corporation whose mission is to conserve the open space, natural habitat and stewardship provided by California ranches. The Rangeland Trust currently holds conservation easements on over 184,000 acres throughout California. Of that, over 29,000 acres are located within the Sierra Nevada region, and was achieved by collaborating with organizations such as the Wildlife Conservation Board, The Nature Conservancy and Sierra Business Council.

Using the Rangeland Assessment Grant provided by SNC earlier in 2008, the Rangeland Trust has evaluated thirteen working cattle ranches within five of the six SNC Sub-regions, ranking them in terms of resource issues, cultural/historic issues, and economic/community issues. The Rangeland Trust will be submitting two competitive grant applications to partially fund conservation easements for two high ranking cattle ranches, which have completed appraisals.

As the next phase, the Rangeland Trust is hereby requesting a Strategic Opportunity Grant Category 2 (SOG2) to obtain Conservation Easement Appraisals and Phase I Environmental Site Assessment Reports (Phase I ESA Reports) for two (2) additional high ranking working cattle ranch projects. The Key Brand Angus Ranch (SNC North Central Sierra Sub-region), consisting of approximately 627 acres, is located in Plumas County within the North Fork of the Feather River watershed and the Penobscot Ranch (SNC Central Sierra Sub-region), consisting of approximately 330 acres, is located in El Dorado County within the South Fork of the American River watershed. Both of the selected ranches scored 42 points out of a possible total of 45 points when assessing the identified issues. The Rangeland Trust plans to submit for competitive grant funds from SNC in 2009 once the appraisal and environmental reports are completed and matching conservation easement grant funds are identified for these two projects.

LETTERS OF SUPPORT

Key Brand Angus Ranch, Plumas County

- 1) Michael DeSpain, Greenville Rancheria
- 2) Aletha Smith, Maidu Indian neighbor
- 3) Jim Wilcox, Feather River Coordinated Resource Management (FR-CRM)
- 4) Bob A. Orange, Department of Fish and Game
- 5) Darrel Jury, Plumas Audubon
- 6) Wilma Taddei, Neighbor and birder

Penobscot Ranch, El Dorado County

- 1) Ron Briggs, Supervisor, County of El Dorado
- 2) William J. Bennett, Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation District

SNC PROJECT DELIVERABLES AND SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
SNC Board Authorization	December 2008
Order Conservation Easement Appraisal Reports	February 2009
Order Phase I ESA Reports	February 2009
Receive, Review and Finalize Appraisal Reports	May-June 2009
Receive, Review and Finalize Phase I ESA Reports	May-June 2009
Submit Reports along with GAPs to SNC	September 2009
Submit Final Grant Report to SNC	October 2009

SNC PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
Appraisal Summary Report - Key Brand Angus Ranch, Plumas County	\$7,500.00
Appraisal Summary Report - Penobscot Ranch, El Dorado County	\$6,500.00
Phase I ESA Report - Key Brand Angus Ranch, Plumas County	\$3,500.00
Phase I ESA Report - Penobscot Ranch, El Dorado County	\$3,500.00
Directly Related Administrative Costs including Performance Measures & Reporting	\$3,000.00
Hard Costs	\$ 350.00
	\$
	\$
	\$
	\$
SNC GRANT TOTAL	\$24,350.00